

**Quarterly Issues and Programming Report
April 2012 thru June 2012**

WTNH/News 8

1. Community Issues
2. Health
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Community Issues:

April:

04/21/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"Old Saybrook Food Drive"

With the need so great, the Old Saybrook fire department moved up it's annual food drive for the shoreline food kitchen from fall to spring. Old Saybrook along with 8 other volunteer departments held drives from 9 am to 1 in the afternoon. The goal was to raise about 9 thousand pounds of non perishable food items but the organizer of the drive was confident of exceeding the goal, because of his community's tremendous commitment to others. The shoreline food kitchen serves 11 towns in southern Connecticut. You don't have to wait for a food drive to donate.. Just go to our website WTNH.com for a list of donation locations.

04/25/12: News 8 at 5pm - :20

"Hartford Breakfast"

The people of Hartford were honored today... for being the second hardest working community in the nation. The list was created by Total Cereal and Parade Magazine. So to reward citizens of the Capitol City Total gave away free bowls of cereal for breakfast.

04/26/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"Bridgeport Beautification"

Students in the radiography program at St. Vincent College in Bridgeport were out beautifying Seaside Park. About 20 students from the program spent the day planting flowers and a tree and picking up trash around the park. Each year they do a community service project and this year they decided to keep it local and help clean up the area for their community. Elementary school students in Killingworth also rolled up their sleeves today. They cleaned up an outdoor area at the school, in honor of earth day.

04/29/12: Good Morning CT Wknd – 2:00

"National Rebuild Day"

This is one of 19 homes and yards being fixed in Hartford. No, the homeowner didn't hit the jackpot and hire this huge crew. These are complete strangers working hard to make the neighborhoods look nicer. She's volunteered in the past, now Micah Barbara Smith feels like she's getting the best of both worlds. This year, her aunt Diane Horne of Hartford is one of the 19 chosen to have her home renovated by Rebuilding Together Hartford. The organization helps the elderly and people like Diane who are disabled and can't keep up their homes. She has diabetes and has been in and out of the hospital for two years. Smith was surprised to see the home in the shape it's in right now. It's really sad to see it like that. And she would probably be upset to see this right now? Yes. Exactly. She usually has someone come and help and she hasn't been able to contact them, so it's been pretty hard. This is all about to change as these volunteers and a number of businesses across the state get to work. The money for Rebuilding Together mainly comes from organizations in the community. Kristen Moriarity from Verizon Wireless says Diane deserves to get these renovations. She was in a coma for a few months and currently she's in a

nursing home, so she can't do things on her own. The October snowstorm knocked down a lot of her trees, so we're removing some of the brush which you can see behind me. Her back porch was falling down, so we removed the back porch and are building her a deck. Inside the home, you'll find more workers fixing the bathroom and changing locks. It makes you feel great at the end of the day to know in one day that's all it takes to give these individuals the pleasure of knowing they're house is safe now. Quite often someone else in the neighborhood needs assistance and that's how we receive applications for the next year. It could be a few days or a few weeks before Diane Horne will see the finished product at her house, but her niece says it will be heartwarming for the whole family just as it is now for the volunteers who are working tirelessly.

May:

05/03/12: News 8 at 5pm – 1:00

“Latino Expo”

The 12th Annual Latino Expo is the largest annual Hispanic event in the Northeastern United States. This weekend, the Expo is making a big move- and taking a leap of faith- by relocating to East Haven. The Latino Expo kicks off at Noon on Saturday, May 5th-- Cinco de Mayo-- with Mayor Joe Maturo and the Army Color Guard. At the weekend-long Expo, you'll find information and resources to make your life better- like free vision screenings, learning how to apply for student loans, and advice on starting your own business. There will be tons of food at the Expo, and a constant stream of beautiful music, dancing, and other live entertainment. Make sure to stop by the News 8 booth and check out the cooking demonstration by the "Singing Chef", Neil Fuentes! You can even attend free seminars, and enter drawings to win prizes. Admission is absolutely free, and there's no charge for parking!

05/21/12: News 8 at 12pm - :25

“Waterbury Gun Range”

Some parents in Waterbury who don't want to see a gun range go up near their kids' school... are sounding off against the plan today. The gun range would be built near Sprague Elementary on Thomaston Avenue. Parents are concerned about lead exposure which is known to lead to long term health problems especially for young kids. Those parents are planning a rally at the school beginning at 4:30 this afternoon..

05/23/06: News 8 at 11pm – 1:00

“Wolcott Fire Benefit”

She lost her son... and her cat in a devastating house fire late last month. Tonight the firefighters and EMS workers that were there that night, fighting to save their lives, were back again in an effort to help a woman that has been through so much. Tonight Ruth watches fire fighters and police and paramedics play basketball to raise money for her... Last month she watched the same emergency personnel charge into her burning house to try and save her son. Tickets were five dollars at the door and they were selling pizza and soda in the lobby all the proceeds go to the family, and they are hoping to raise thousands... But Ruth says it's not the money, but the sea of faces in the crowd they lift her spirits.

June:

06/01/12: Good Morning CT - :20

“Now Hiring”

Good news for folks who are still looking for work. Ten big companies are hiring -- looking to fill 26-thousand positions nationwide. First Transit bus company... Wells Fargo... Community Health Systems... Liberty Mutual and AT&T are just some of the companies that are looking for skilled workers.

06/04/12: News 8 at 5pm - :25

"Bridgeport Playground"

Some kids in Bridgeport have a new place to play. This weekend hundreds of volunteers put together a playground at the city's "Alpha Community Y-M-C-A." The two homes on that site are emergency shelters for families. Its all part of the work of a national group called KaBoom -- that's dedicated to saving playtime for kids.

06/14/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"The Big Event"

The Annual International Arts and Ideas festival begins this Saturday in New Haven! The Arts and Ideas festival is a huge, 15-day celebration of music, theater, and all things "art". You'll see unique performances by artists from all around the globe, along with workshops, historic tours, foodie experiences, mixology classes, and plenty of family-friendly activities. Headline acts appear on the New Haven Green every weekend night. This year's lineup includes the vocal ensemble "Sing the Truth", and country rock star Roseanne Cash... make sure to bring your lawnchair! Of course, there's so much more at the festival, I couldn't possibly fit it all in here... but you can get the full schedule and ticket information on our website,

Health:

April:

04/02/12: Good Morning CT - :25

"BPA Ban"

Some health advocates say they will continue to fight... after the F-D-A decided Friday *not to ban the chemical known as B-P-A in food and beverage containers. The FDA says there's not enough evidence that proves its harmful... but some studies have found otherwise. Connecticut was one of the first states to ban BPA from baby bottles and cash register tape.

04/03/12: News 8 at 6pm - :30

"School Lice"

Some upset parents turn to News 8 when they got word that some kids at their children's school had head lice. It happened at the Bishop Woods School in New Haven. Breneliz Rosario went home panicked last week when the school nurse sent out an informational letter about checking for and treating head lice. The school nurse tells News 8 on Wednesday they confirmed a teacher had lice. On Thursday, they sent home the letter. On Friday, all students and staff, totaling about 530, were checked for lice. In total, there were nine cases. Health officials suggest checking your child's head weekly. For more information on how to check for and treat lice, go to our website, wtnh.com.

04/10/12: News 8 at 5pm - :35

"Nail Polish Toxins"

Could your nail polish be bad for you? California regulators say some nail polish that's labeled as safe, is not. Researchers examined different brands... sold and used in nail salons. They found that 10 of 12 products claiming to be free of the chemical toluene actually did contain it. And four of the products... had dangerously high levels of the chemical. Some of the polish also contained formaldehyde and DBP. Experts say the agents are known as the "toxic trio." They've been linked to developmental problems, asthma and other complications.

04/20/12: News 8 at 12pm - :25

"Measles Cases"

More than a decade after doctors said measles had been eliminated in the U-S... health officials say the virus is back. The C-D-C, says... measles cases hit a 15-year high in 20-11. There were

17 outbreaks nationwide... infecting more than 220 people. All of those patients survived. C-D-C scientists say... the measles virus is 'typically' introduced by people who have traveled internationally.

May:

05/02/12: News 8 at 5pm – 1:35

“Asthma Study”

A cool and cloudy day hovers New Haven -- not the hot hazy humid weather - that patients with asthma generally try to avoid. "I would tell my mom, where's my pump because I always had to carry it. Then I always had to check at school to see if they always had my backup ibutero! there." Elia Lopez no longer worries - after growing out of her asthmatic symptoms. A lung function test - shows her air flow is normal. But with New Haven, Hartford and Bridgeport high on the list of the worst places to live in the U-S with asthma -- "It's likely mostly related to the environment." others may not be so lucky. Dr. Lauren Cohn at the Yale Center for Asthma & Airway Disease explains. "The problem in inner cities is access to healthcare and in addition, worse pollution, worse environments that exacerbate disease." For patients - who do follow doctors orders closely -- and still have severe symptoms -- "we enter the lung with a probe to reduce the spasm in the airway." Bronchial thermoplasty is an innovative therapy - to ease some of their suffering. Yale-New Haven Hospital was the first in the state to perform it. Dr. Geoffrey Chupp is the director of the Asthma & Airway center. It's an outpatient procedure - patients undergo three times in three months. Clinical trials for new medications are also underway.

05/24/12: News 8 at 6pm - :30

“Kids Eat Laundry Packs”

Between the bright colors and bite-size packaging, many parents say it's easy to see why, to kids, these new packets of laundry detergent...could look like candy and the container they come in like a candy jar. That's exactly what 19 month old Isabella Sutton thought -- when she bit Into one Wednesday morning - minutes later, she was vomiting and had diarrhea. They are advertised as an end to messes, spills, and heavy jugs, but the American Association of poison control centers is now reporting a surge in calls -- about these little single dose packets making children violently ill. The single dose laundry detergent packets have only been on the market a few months, but the poison control center says it only started linking illness -- with the pods earlier this month in the last 20 days-- poison control centers across the country have received nearly 180 calls - that's almost 10 calls a day.

05/31/12 News 8 at 5pm - :25

“Atkins Diet Study”

New research tonight into those low-carb diets that have raised controversy for some time now - Experts have argued that diets -- like the Atkins diet -- high in protein and low in carbs-- may damage the kidneys. A new study shows this type of low-carb diet did 'no' harm to patients' kidney function.

June:

06/01/12: News 8 at 12pm - :25

“Don't Pee in the Pool”

This may make you think twice about your next visit to the public pool. If you're with four other people, odds are one of you is urinating in the pool. That's according to the Water Quality & Health Council. In a 'properly maintained' pool... the chlorine should kill any germs on contact... but 54 percent of pools tested last year didn't contain enough chlorine to do the job.

06/06/12: News 8 at 12pm - :25

"CT Children's Hospital Rating"

One of the best Children's hospitals in the country is right here in Connecticut. "US News and World Report" ranked Connecticut Children's Medical Center as number 13 out of 178 they surveyed. It is the third straight year the hospital has made the list.

06/18/12: News 8 at 5pm - :25

"Bath Salts Dangers"

It's a drug -- already banned in more than 40 states. Now, authorities are talking about a federal ban on so-called "bath salts." Just to clarify -- they are not the ones you use to soak in while taking a bath. It is a substance sold over-the-counter -- at gas stations and convenience stores. When taken as drugs... the chemicals in these bath salts are believed to cause paranoia, hallucinations and even -- violent behavior.

Education:

April:

04/03/12: Good Morning CT - :25

"NAACP/Malloy Education"

Connecticut NAACP leaders are calling on Governor Dannel Malloy to push for more cultural diversity in schools. The Hartford Courant reports the NAACP wants to see teachers provided with cross-cultural sensitivity training. They also want parents to be provided with help to become better advocates for their children.

04/04/12: News 8 at 12pm - :30

"CCSU Tuition Rally"

A lunchtime march and rally is being held at Central Connecticut State University today. Students and staff members want to see changes made to the state's funding priorities. They say, as the state reduces the money 'allocated' to higher education schools are being forced to make cuts and students have to pay higher tuition. The march began at the student center about a half hour ago. Right now a rally is going on at the library on campus.

04/25/12: Good Morning CT - :25

"Naugatuck School Closings"

An elementary school and pre-K program are on the chopping block in Naugatuck. Tonight the board of education could vote... on whether or not to close the programs. Dozens of parents turned out for a meeting last night. Many say they're worried about bigger class sizes... and of course... teachers losing their jobs.

04/30/12: News 8 at 6pm - :30

"WestConn Party"

Western Connecticut State University okayed a wild concert on campus that ended up with 30-students taken to the hospital. In the wake of what happened... the Mayor of Danbury has some questions for administrators at West Conn. This big bash on campus has stirred-up a conflict with city hall. Mayor Mark Boughton has no problem with kids having a bit of fun...it's a right of passage afterall. But - he does get a little concerned when more than two dozen people are taken to a hospital.

May:

05/04/12: News 8 at 11pm - :40

"School Breakfast"

A lot of kids in our state go to school hungry. Some of them could be getting breakfast at school but are not. Connecticut is dead last in the nation in terms of schools taking part in a federally-funded school breakfast program. Why? Governor Malloy says in some cases, teachers don't want children eating in their classrooms. And some districts don't want to open school early. The governor says not only are needy kids losing out but the state is losing out too. Malloy wants a 20 percent increase in the number of districts taking part in breakfast programs. Opponents say schools should be about education and its the parent's responsibility to make sure kids are fed and ready to learn.

05/23/12: Good Morning CT - :20

"East Haven Uniforms"

A new dress code for school students in East Haven is a go. The board of ed approved the dress code last night after nearly two hours of discussion. The policy will include white, navy blue or burgundy tops... and either navy blue... khaki or beige pants.

05/29/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"No Child Left Behind Waiver"

Eight states, including Connecticut, have been given flexibility from the Bush-era No Child Left Behind law. U-S Education Secretary Arne Duncan was in Connecticut today for the announcement. The Obama administration is giving waivers in exchange for promises from states to improve how they prepare and evaluate students. In all, 19 states have been given waivers so far. The waivers are a stopgap move until Congress rewrites the law which has been up for renewal since 2007.

June:

06/01/12: News 8 at 5pm - :25

"New Haven's Teacher of the Year"

A top honor for an English teacher at Common Ground Charter high school in New Haven - Lizanne Cox is one of just twenty teachers nationwide to receive the Environmental Education Award presented by the E-P-A. Since 1999, Cox has been involved in creating 'environmental-themed' courses at 'Common Ground'. For her efforts, Cox will receive 2-thousand dollars to advance her professional development... and Common Ground will *also* get two thousand dollars to further its environmental education program.

06/08/12: News 8 at 11pm - :30

"Bridgeport School Closed"

A Bridgeport school that focuses on students with special needs is on the chopping block. "University School" has a one-hundred plus year history but administrators say the alternative institution for at-risk and special needs students is close to closing because the district is cutting funds. The superintendent says the school was never intended to be a full-time stay for students and the children will be put in a better program. But parents are worried about the change. The superintendent says the district has been dolling out millions based on a student count, a number the University School often fails to meet. School officials say they're willing to reduce the cost per student to keep their annual contract.

06/16/12: News 8 at 6pm - :35

"Yale Sexual Misconduct"

The U.S. Department of Education says it has closed the books on a complaint that Yale University failed to properly respond to sexual harassment on campus. Several students filed the complaint... citing an incident last year when fraternity members chanted "no means yes" on campus. They also say incoming female freshmen were ranked on attractiveness. The Education Department's Office of Civil Rights says Yale has made policy changes to deal with future

complaints including creating a new grievance policy... and increased training for staff and students. The university says they're happy the investigation is over and their efforts have been recognized.

Crime:

April:

04/10/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"Death Penalty New Haven"

Some relatives of murder victims say, "repeal the death penalty." They joined New Haven's mayor and police chief today at city hall calling on state lawmakers to pass the repeal bill. They cite a poll of police chiefs around the nation who say, the death penalty carries very little weight for deterring violent crime. Like Victoria Coward whose son Tyler was shot and killed when he was just 18 at New Haven's Edgewood Avenue Park. The Connecticut House of Representatives will debate the death penalty repeal bill tomorrow.

04/19/12: News 8 at 12pm - :25

"Bribery Arrest"

A new development in a missing person's case in Sherman - 76-year-old Dominic Badaracco is accused of trying to *bribe* a judge... to influence a grand jury... that was investigating his wife's disappearance. Mary Badarracco disappeared more than 25 years ago. Her case was classified a homicide in 1990. The arrest warrant says... Dominic Badaracco was considered a suspect and possible target of the grand jury investigation. But... it concluded last month with no indictment.

04/22/12: Good Morning CT - :80

"Meriden Police Deaths"

We begin this morning in Meriden where two men are dead. Police say they were defending themselves when they fired a tazer and a gun at the men early yesterday morning but the family of one of the victims opened up to News 8's Erin Logan demanding to know why police took deadly action. Some neighbors say they were scared as Angel Cajigas was waving scissors in the air chanting, "God, " the "Devil." The next thing they knew, police were here and he was dead. We talked to his family members and his roommate who says there's a different side to this story. Shortly after Carlos Rodriguez heard those shots, he got the news his roommate, and close friend 46 year-old Angel Cajigas was dead. He says the scene at the home early this morning was frightening. Meriden police were called to the Maple Branch home. When they got there, they found Cajigas on the second floor. They say he charged at them with scissors. Rodriguez says that didn't happen. Police say he wouldn't cooperate and made his way to the third floor...he still wouldn't give up the scissors and was verbally threatening. One officer tried to use a stun gun and police say that didn't work so another officer used his gun. Cajigas' niece spoke to us, but didn't want to show her face. She says he took medication for a mental illness. She was furious to hear about this scene at 10 Grove Court about thirty minutes before involving another man named Angel. Police say Angel Hiraldo was destroying items inside a home with a hammer. He refused to put the hammer down and started coming toward the officers. One of the officers then fired a tazer at Hiraldo. After being tazed he suddenly had difficulty breathing. He died at the hospital.

04/23/12: News 8 at 12pm - :30

"Robbery and Car Theft in New Haven"

New Haven police are investigating a robbery and carjacking on Whalley Avenue. A man tells police it happened right after he closed up shop at the Ashe barber shop and got into his BMW. That's when the victim claims he was approached by a man carrying a hand-gun in both of his hands. The man ordered the victim out of the car and then took his cell phone, wallet and

sneakers. Then he decided to take the victim's car but he couldn't get it to start. He reportedly made the victim help him. The car is described as a blue 2008 BMW 5 X-I with Connecticut license plate 518YZX.

May:

05/03/12: News 8 at 6pm - :25

"Prescription Heist Update"

Major developments in a massive prescription drug heist, in fact, the biggest in U-S history. It was a story News 8 broke first. The Eli Lilly warehouse in Enfield was robbed more than 2-years ago. Tractor trailers were used to haul out nearly 80-million-dollars worth of medicine. Today, the U-S attorney's office in New Haven announced the arrests of 11-people in Florida. All are from South Florida. Investigators say almost all of the stolen meds from Connecticut were found. The feds also say... the suspects pulled off similar heists around the country.

05/10/12: News 8 at 12pm - :30

"Groton Torture Attack"

A vicious and bizarre crime is now under investigation in New London. Police say a former Navy man is charged with torturing his wife in their home for nearly 5-hours. The 'Day of New London' reports 36-year-old James Tapp of Groton is being held on a medical and suicide watch. His wife, who is also in the Navy, says her husband beat her, squeezed her finger with a pair of pliers and threatened to shoot and cut her. Both Groton police and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service are investigating.

05/30/12: News 8 at 11pm - :30

"West Haven Crime"

From fights to vandalism, some people in West Haven say they've had enough. For the second time in a year or so vandals smashed the windows of Physicians Physical Therapy on Campbell Ave. Owners say the city isn't taking the problem seriously. West Haven Police say they have NOT seen a spike in crime but admit that what they call "unnecessary behaviors are becoming a problem". The Mayor says people will see more police on the streets soon.

June:

06/05/12: News 8 at 6pm - :30

"Bra Cam"

She was recording the police while they were making an arrest. They ordered her to give up her phone and when she didn't she was also arrested. Jennifer Gondola tells news 8, she was leaving the "Pulse" Nightclub in New Haven early Saturday morning... when she joined others in recording the police arresting a man. When she refused police orders to hand over the phone she says they took it anyway and took her into custody. A policy put into place just last year makes it clear that taping police is NOT illegal. New Haven police will not comment on the case because there is an investigation going on.

06/12/12: Good Morning CT - :30

"Body Found in UHaul"

We have breaking news to tell you about in Woodbridge. Police tell us they're investigating the discovery of a body in a UHAUL Truck. This is happening on Bethmour Road. A man and woman who were driving the truck are being questioned... but no arrests have been made. We'll bring you much more when we have it.

06/18/12: News 8 at 6pm - :30

“Travel Agent Fraud”

A travel agent accused of ripping off customers is expected to be in court tomorrow. 44-year old Maria Klemyk, the owner of Colonial Travel in Farmington, is accused of bilking customers out of tens of thousands of dollars. Investigators say... the victims pre-paid for trips to Italy, Japan and Canada... which were never booked. We went online to check on the company, and found the Better Business Bureau has a list of complaints that have been lodged against Colonial Travel.

Consumer Issues:

April:

04/04/12: News 8 at 5pm - :35

“Dog Food Alert”

The FDA has also named 3 dog treat brands that may be tied to dog deaths and illnesses. The FDA says Waggin Train 'Wholesome Chicken Jerky Tenders and Canyon Creek Ranch Jerky Treats. Both made by Nestle Purina, may be tied to the problems. And, Milo's Kitchen Home Style Dog Treats by Del Monte is also named in the FDA report. Officials believe the treats which are made in China may be toxic. Both companies say their treats are safe. The FDA has not issued a recall because repeated tests have not shown any problems. However, a log of complaints filed by pet owners and vets references the 3 popular brands.

04/05/12: Good Morning CT - :20

“Gas Prices Small Cars”

High gas prices are forcing more people to consider buying small cars. This is helping the auto industry. Those cars, low interest rates, deals on trucks and unusually mild weather helped the auto industry achieve its best monthly performance in four years in March.

04/12/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

“Jeep Wrangler Fires”

The feds are taking a closer look at the safety of Jeep Wranglers. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is asking Chrysler, the maker of Jeeps, for information about Wranglers from 2007 through 2012. It's an expansion of a probe that began in March. The government says 23-Wrangler owners have complained about fires. Four people have been hurt and two homes were damaged. An investigation could lead to recall.

04/19/12: News 8 at 12pm - :25

“Best Buy Deals”

Good news for some Best Buy shoppers who are looking to snatch up some electronics on the cheap. The store plans to close 50 locations by the end of the year. That means a lot of stores are marking down merchandise starting this Sunday. But don't expect to walk away with a steal on big-ticket items. Smaller items like cell phone accessories, batteries and video games are being marked down.

May:

05/01/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

“Travel & ID Theft”

When you take off on vacation identity thieves can go to work. Between passports, credit cards and other documents travelers can be prime targets for scammers looking to swipe personal information. Experts say some things are best left at home. They recommend limiting the number of credit and debit cards you take on a trip. Keep one of each in the hotel safe in case your wallet

is lost or stolen. Make sure that you're taking a limited number of documents with you, because documents if they're stolen they can create a great deal of trouble for you. Have your bank keep tabs on transactions -- and send you alerts for anything suspicious. And look at your statements... to make sure everything adds up.

05/07/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

“Dog Food Recall”

A nationwide dog food recall is going on after 14-people got sick with salmonella, including one person in Connecticut. It's been linked to products from Diamond Pet Foods. The affected dog food was made at a facility in South Carolina. Investigators say it's possible people got sick after contact with dogs that ate the food. We have a list of the pet foods under recall tonight at our website – wtnh.com.

05/17/12: News 8 at 12pm - :30

“Acura Recall”

Honda says it's recalling nearly 53 thousand Acura T-L sedans due to a problem with their 'power steering hoses'. Those hoses can deteriorate over time and leak fluid that can cause the cars to lose 'power steering' or even cause a fire. The sedans are from the model years of 2007 and 2008. Owners will get letters in mid-June... telling them to take their cars to an Acura dealer.

June:

06/06/12: Good Morning CT - :25

“High Chair Recall”

Here's an important message for parents of youngsters. The Consumer Product Safety Commission is advising parents to stop using Evenflo's convertible high chair. The C-P-S-C says 18 people have reported the tray can detach unexpectedly. There have been reports of kids falling out of the chair. About 35-thousand of the chairs were sold.

06/07/12: News 8 at 5pm - :20

“Scam Tips”

Here are some other things to be aware of to avoid a scam, courtesy of the Federal Trade Commission: Watch out for: -Someone you did not contact for a job. -Someone who asks for money up front. -Or someone who wants personal finance information.

06/15/12: News 8 at 5pm - :25

“How to Avoid Counterfeits”

Americans love deals on designer products and scammers know it. Clothing, shoes and handbags are among the most popular items for counterfeiters so do your homework before you buy. If you do get duped, don't try to resell the item. Even if you tell someone it's not real you're still liable -- and could get in trouble or get prosecuted.

Government, Economy, & Law

April:

04/02/12: Good Morning CT - :25

“More Companies Hiring”

Some good signs for the economy as employers are expected to higher 10-percent more workers this year. This is also the first time job seekers are getting multiple offers. A good indicator that things are looking up is career fairs are seeing a 15 to 30-percent increase in the number of companies that are taking part.

04/02/12: News 8 at 12pm - :25

"Malloy Gas Cap"

Drivers might find a bit of relief the next time the head to the gas station. 'Bit' is the key word here - Governor Dannel Malloy is expected to sign a bill into law tomorrow that would cap the state's tax on the 'wholesale' price of gasoline. Under the bill, the cap kicks in when the wholesale price hits 3 dollars a gallon. The price of regular un-leaded would drop by about one and a half cents per gallon.

04/05/12: News 8 at 11pm - :30

"Death Penalty Latest"

Connecticut's death penalty is one big step closer to being abolished. Just after two this morning, the State Senate voted 20 to 16 to approve the bill abolishing the death penalty replacing it with life without parole. The re-written law would make lifers' conditions worse than those on death row ... they'll be isolated and they'll have fewer privileges but nothing will change for the men currently under death sentence. Republicans argue that having some under death sentence while abolishing the statute in the future *won't survive court challenges but some experts disagree. The bill now goes to the House of Representatives where passage is likely. Governor Malloy has pledge to sign it.

04/10/12: News 8 at 11pm - :35

"Occupy New Haven Stay"

Another judge has halted eviction on the Green for "Occupy New Haven". Before the appeals court judge issued an injunction police began the process of removing all of the Occupy tents and structures. Two demonstrators were arrested before the judge stopped the city from clearing out the encampment. Legal arguments will be made next week and the a final decision on the future of the Occupy movement on the Green could take anywhere from a week to a year.

May:

05/03/12: Good Morning CT - :25

"Minimum Wage Bill"

Efforts to raise the state's minimum wage may fall short but don't tell that to some folks gathering in Hartford today. Raising the minimum wage might not make it through the state senate. Folks who want it raised will hold a press conference later today at a donut shop down the street from the capitol complex. It's sit down restaurants that are causing problems for the bill. The proposal is to raise the minimum wage for most people from \$8.25 to \$8.75 over the next two years. But waiters and waitresses are subject to a lower minimum wage because they get tips. This bill would raise their minimum wage, too and sources tell News8 that pressure from restaurant owners has some senators opposing this bill. Senate leaders have now changed things so wait staff would only get a 35 cent raise over the next 3 years and they hope that will change some senators' minds. If it does pass the senate, Governor Malloy has said he would sign the bill into law.

05/31/12: News 8 at 5pm - :30

"Unemployment Benefits"

More signs tonight that the job market remains sluggish. The number of people applying for unemployment benefits rose to a five-week high last week. The Labor Department says applications jumped 10-thousand... to 383-thousand. Economists were disappointed with the numbers partly because a separate report released showed private businesses boosted hiring only slightly in May. The government will release its highly-anticipated monthly jobs report for May tomorrow.

05/31/12: News 8 at 11pm - :35

"Bus Crackdown"

It's the biggest transportation safety crackdown in history. The target is dangerous buses. Government SWAT teams made their move in six states today shutting down 26 bus companies operating along I-95 between New York and Florida that they say are an imminent threat to public safety. ABC News was there as agents raided a bus company in Philadelphia that was operating out of a beauty supply office. The shutdowns come after a number of deadly crashes involving coach buses including a horrifying wreck last year in New York that killed 14 passengers.

June:

06/01/12: News 8 at 12pm - :45

"Jobs/Economy"

A dismal jobs report is leading to new concerns of a slowing economy. The latest job numbers show weaker than expected growth and its already having an effect on wall street and the presidential campaign trail. A paltry 69-thousand jobs were added in May - Far fewer than the 150 thousand expected. And there's more bad news... the Unemployment rate rose for the first time in 11 months to 8 point 2 percent. President Obama is expected to comment on the numbers later today. In a blog, the white house writes the problems in the job market were long in the making and won't be solved overnight.

06/11/12: News 8 at 5pm - :35

"Waterbury Dangerous Dogs Followup"

Many in Waterbury are weighing-in tonight on a plan to toughen up laws against dangerous dogs. The call for action follows the mauling of an elderly woman who was attacked by two pit bulls in March. Police were forced to shoot and kill the dogs. Waterbury police are investigating yet another attack. This time it was a Waterbury father who suffered from multiple bites and this is the issue in front of the city council tonight...what's the most effective way of decreasing dog bites. City officials say dangerous dogs are a problem and tonight residents get to sound off in a public meeting to discuss a new plan. Just yesterday police say an 8 year old was bitten by his family's pitbull. Once again, tonight city officials want to hear from neighbors on a new law...they're looking at stricter fines and secondary enclosure gates. The meeting starts at 6:30pm.

06/18/12: News 8 at 6pm - :30

"Dream Act Yale"

A Connecticut group says between 11 and 20 thousand young people in this state will benefit from the Obama administration's policy change on immigration. Those numbers were given by the group "Connecticut Students for a Dream" at a news conference today at Yale Law School. People like 25 year old Carlos Castro, a native of Equador, who grew up in Shelton say only now they can come out of the shadows. Under the new policy un-documented people who entered the U-S before the age of 16 and have been here for more than five years... can work, go to school or serve in the military without the threat of being deported.